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Jennifer
Hornsby hired
as Elba's new
asst. city clerk



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Linden in
Class 1A
football playoffs



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graduate from
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Master's degree



The Elba Clipper

Volume 124, Number 28 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, December 3, 2020 1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

Elba street superintendent proposes change at council meeting Elba's garbage pickup moves to daytime hours

by Linda Hodge, Editor

During the Elba City Council meeting held Monday evening, Nov. 30, new street supervisor Andy Wood proposed changing the city's garbage pickup schedule to a daytime route, and the council agreed to move forward with his proposal immediately.

Wood gave several reasons he felt it would be more beneficial for the city to run the garbage pickup routes in the daytime rather than in the early morning hours. His proposal was to start the pickup each day at 7 a.m.

Wood said the biggest reason is the truck operator can see better in the daytime hours. Other reasons he gave for making the change included: the mechanic is already at work at 7 a.m.; if the garbage truck did break-

Mayor enters quarantine after COVID-19 exposure

Elba Mayor Tom Maddox entered into quarantine Monday, Nov. 30, after discovering last that afternoon, around 4 p.m., that he had been in direct contact with someone who had tested positive for the COVID-19 virus.

Mayor Maddox joined the Elba City Council and Elba Water and Electric meetings, held at Elba City Hall, that evening via teleconference.

down and the crew had to change over to the dumpster truck – a rear loading vehicle – the extra personnel needed for this is already at work; missed pickups on the route can be handled the

same day after calls are made to city hall reporting the missed pickup; and residents would have more time to get their cans out by the road.

Also, Wood said the city receives a lot of complaints about the noise of the garbage truck and it waking residents up early in the mornings. He said changing to a daytime route would lower the risk of waking people up.

"The [county] landfill closes at 5 p.m.," Wood said. "I feel like we can handle the pickup each day by that time at least, if not earlier."

Assistant City Clerk Pat Boothe said Wood had discussed his proposal with her, Mayor Tom Maddox, and City Clerk Sally Bane, and they all agreed this seemed like a good idea. With the council's blessing, she said the change would be made immediately, starting with the Tuesday, Dec. 1, route.

Boothe clarified that no routes would change as far as the pickup day, only the time of day the garbage is picked up.

See ELBA, Page 3

Vehicle pursuit originated in Covington County before ending Monday afternoon in Elba

by Linda Hodge, Editor

A high-speed pursuit that began Monday afternoon, Nov. 30, in Covington County caused quite a commotion in Elba a short time later when the pursuit ended on Highway 84 near Week's Tire.

Elba Police Lt. Russ Young said the pursuit began on U.S. Highway 331 in the Onycha area of Covington County as an Alabama State Trooper began pursuit of a vehicle, a Jeep Compass SUV, that fled from him in an attempt to make a traffic stop. Soon after the pursuit began, a tire on the Trooper's vehicle blew out forcing him to end his pursuit.

Lt. Young said Opp Police picked up the pursuit of the suspect vehicle when the Trooper was unable to continue. Opp pursued onto the U.S. Highway 84 Bypass and continued into the Elba Police jurisdiction

Police Chief provides activity update to Elba City Council

During the Elba City Council meeting Monday evening, Nov. 30, Police Chief Leslie Hussey said his department had one officer to resign over the past couple of weeks, but another had been hired to replace that officer.

However, he added that another officer had turned in a resignation earlier Monday; therefore, the department would be short one officer again. Also, he said one dispatcher had recently resigned.

Hussey said activity for the department had been relatively normal over the past two weeks, but he said normal to the department included answering almost 170 calls for service. He said these calls are where an officer responds in person and some sort of action is taken.

On top of those calls, he said the department also handled calls for information and had several investigative follow-ups. In addition, Hussey said dispatchers took in 211 calls for the sheriff's department over the past two weeks, as well as, handled calls for Kinston and New Brockton.

Hussey said the department had a good Thanksgiving holiday with nothing major happening over that holiday time period.

where officers with the Elba Police Department also joined in the pursuit.

Lt. Young an Opp Police vehicle attempted to block the suspect at which time the suspect's vehicle crossed over the median in the area of Week's Tire and came to a stop.

During the Elba City Council meeting Monday

night, Elba Police Chief Leslie Hussey said there were four males in the Jeep Compass, and two of those jumped out of the vehicle and ran while two others remained by the vehicle. He said a short foot-pursuit of the two that ran ended with them being apprehended by officers.

The chief noted that the

suspects insisted they were "heading to a funeral in Elba" when they reportedly attempted to elude the Trooper originally in Covington County. He said two 18-year-olds involved were wearing ankle monitors.

Chief Hussey said the good news was that no injuries resulted from this incident.

Elba W&E board officially appoints Jane Brunson as chairperson

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Elba Water and Electric Board held its first meeting of the new administration Monday night, Nov. 30, at city hall, and the board voted to elect its officers during the meeting.

All members were pres-

ent with exception of board member Barry Giles. Also, Mayor Tom Maddox attended the meeting via teleconference after going into quarantine that afternoon from learning he had been in close contact with someone that had tested positive for the COVID-19 virus.

With no clear chairperson at the start of Monday night's meeting, any board member was able to call the meeting to order, and board member Jane Brunson did that.

Mayor Maddox then asked to address the board. "When I was making the appointments for the [city council] organizational meeting at the beginning of November, I erroneously made an appointment for Jane Brunson to be chairman of the board and for her to be on the PowerSouth board," Maddox said. "Subsequently, we learned that was inappropriate and that the water and electric board should select its own chairperson."

The mayor apologized for that misunderstanding.

"I take full responsibility for doing it incorrectly," Maddox said.

In the first order of business, board member Bryan

Grimes made a motion to nominate Jane Brunson as the chairperson for the board. He received a second from board member AR Williams, and the motion passed with all present voting in favor, except Brunson who abstained from the vote.

Taking the lead as chair, Brunson then officially welcomed Bryan Grimes and Angela Newby as new members to the board this term.

Grimes made a motion with a second from Williams to appoint Barry Giles as the vice chair. This passed with no opposition. Also appointed to leadership roles for the board were Sally Bane as secretary/treasurer, and Tom Maddox as superintendent.

The board voted to follow Robert's Rules of Order as its guide for parliamentary



Andy Wood is the new street superintendent for the City of Elba. He was introduced to the city council Monday evening, Nov. 30, by assistant city clerk Pat Boothe. She said Wood had been with the city for about four years now, and all were excited to have him serve now as street superintendent. She said he already has some good ideas for moving forward, and he proposed Monday night to change the pickup time for garbage in the city to the daytime hours rather than early morning [before daylight].

Elba City Council hires contractor to help demo flood buyout houses

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba City Council members awarded a bid Monday, Nov. 30, during their council meeting to hire a contractor for help with the demolition of houses purchased via the ongoing FEMA flood buyout project in the city.

Mayor Tom Maddox said there were three bidders for this project. The low bid came from Harrison Earth Movers LLC at a cost of \$3 per square foot. The two other bids were considerably higher.

The council voted to award the bid to Harrison Earth Movers. This company will demo houses deemed to have asbestos, and it will demo any other houses the city needs help with throughout the project.

As of Monday night, assistant city clerk Pat Boothe said the first group of houses in the buyout project were down to one left for demo due to it have asbestos, and with the bid awarded to Harrison Earth Movers during Monday

night's meeting that could move forward now.

Also, Boothe said there was one other home from the first group that had not been closed on yet due to some problems that had arisen.

In group two from the buyout, Boothe said nine of 10 homes had gone through closing. She said the asbestos inspections on those nine homes revealed three with asbestos and the contractor would have to demo those three.

Of the remaining six ready for demo, Boothe said the street department would look at how many it could handle and then the contractor would help with any the street department could not demo.

Boothe said work would begin next week on 'group three' of the homes in the buyout project with homeowners being contacted first to make sure they still desire to participate in the project. From there, she said title searches would begin for the homes participating.



The cooler than normal temperatures Monday, Nov. 30, in Elba ushered in decorating for Christmas by City of Elba employees! By the afternoon it was not only "beginning to look like Christmas" but it was feeling that way too as temperatures were only in the high 40s. Elba's official Christmas Tree, located on the square in downtown Elba, will light up for the first time this holiday season during a tree lighting ceremony set to be held immediately after the annual Christmas Parade planned for Monday, Dec. 7th. The parade begins at 6 p.m. with the tree lighting to follow. Also, there will be a concert of holiday music on the square for all to enjoy after the tree lighting Monday night - this will be presented by the Elba High School Band.

Area Happenings

THE COFFEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING will be Thursday, Dec. 3, at 701 N. Main Street, Enterprise, Ala. The meeting will start at 6 p.m. There is a limit on the number of people that can attend, so call 334-894-5581 X3 to reserve a spot.

THE ELBA CHRISTMAS PARADE will be Monday evening, Dec. 7, beginning at 6 p.m. Following the parade, a lighting ceremony will be held for the city's Christmas Tree – located on the old Clements lot on the square in downtown Elba. That will be followed by a Christmas concert from the Elba High School band. It's not too late to enter the Elba Christmas Parade – there is no entry fee – just contact Sandy Bynum at the Elba Chamber of Commerce at 334-897-3125.

See W&E, Page 7

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

Party politics is the most narrow-minded occupation in the world." — Will Rogers

Many cartoons carry a message, while others poke fun at people. This cartoon we saw last week was definitely poking fun at a bunch of folks: Man and woman looking at SUV with back hatch up and toilet paper tumbling out. Woman's only comment was, "The feds gave you \$1,000 and you spent it all on toilet paper?"

We understand, and support, the U S Constitution, separation of church and state, etc., but the recent Supreme Court decision against New York State's virus-imposed rules that include limiting large church (and many other group) gatherings presents us with a problem. There needs to be some way to make exception to any law (or constitution limitations) if it is necessary to protect those of us who refuse to take common sense actions to protect themselves . . . even our beloved churches of any denomination or belief. The 1978 Jonestown, Guyana massacre/suicide of 909 humans is an extreme example of someone needing to have the legal authority, and backbone, to step in and prevent those deaths. It would be interesting to know how, if based on the court's statement, "the state's limits on religious gatherings violated 'the minimum requirement of neutrality' to religion under the First Amendment" would have been different if the rule had not excluded, whiskey stores, camp grounds, acupuncture facilities, movie theatres, etc. Then if one reads the opinions of the four dissenting court justices, the decision becomes more confusing.

The likelihood of several different shots being available to prevent COVID-19 is exciting, and hopefully more than one of them will fulfill the desperate needs of the world. It appears that a couple of companies will have out limited doses of their version of prevention within the next few weeks. We expect other companies to complete their trials rapidly early in the new year. None of these announced so far are 100% cure-alls, and experts don't expect the later offerings to hit the 100% mark either. However, by cutting the percentage of potential worldwide victims to a very small percentage virtually eliminates the transmission method of COVID, thus making all of us safe(r) . . . that is if folks will take the shots and not spread trumped up horror stories of non-existing side effects.

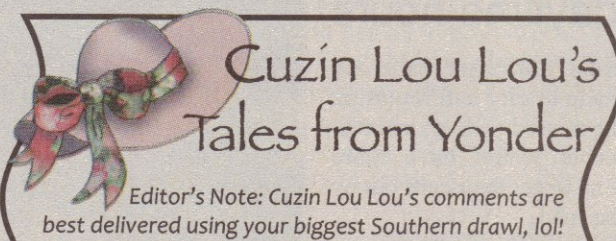
Medical experts predict of every 100 people diagnosed with COVID-19 on a given day that will lead to 1.7 deaths within the next three weeks. The 2,762 average daily death rate is more than one a minute, every single day of the week. They add that the daily deaths may reach 3,000 by Christmas time. Those are hard numbers to look at, but it should give us a motive to listen to these experts when they give advice on how to prevent the spread of the killer (like wear your mask, social distance, wash your hands OFTEN, etc). This means avoiding large gatherings . . . including church. Take precautions today and we will all be here to enjoy our cherished weekly church services for years to come. Don't take precautions and — well then some of us will not be around to share these heart-warming events, hear the music from a dedicated choir nor the important religious message of the day.

STORY UPDATE:

Covington County man dies from injuries sustained in Nov. 18th wreck on Hwy. 134 in Coffee County

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency was notified Thursday, Nov. 26, that James Lanier, age 64, of Opp, Alabama had succumbed to injuries he sustained Wednesday, Nov. 18, in a two-vehicle wreck on Alabama Hwy. 134 near the 18-mile marker. Lanier was a patient at Baptist South in Montgomery, Ala. at the time of his death.

In the wreck, ALEA officials said Lanier was driving eastbound in a 2017 Mitsubishi Outlander when he crossed over into the westbound lane and struck a 2003 Ford Taurus head on [The Elba Clipper first reported on this accident in the Nov. 26th edition of the paper].



Cuzin Lou Lou took the fam jam outdoors on Thanksgiving Day to make annual photos. These generally are used on the Yonder family Christmas card.

Between Papa and the family's new furry critter addition, Bean, being quite uncooperative; and Sister 'unhappy' with the angle at which Lou Lou was taking said photos — let's just say it looks like those won't be making the card this year.

It also did not help that everyone dressed for the occasion as if it was cold outside, and well, it was not on Thanksgiving Day in Yonder.

The idea was to have Papa holding Bean while Sister and Lou Lou gather on each side. Of course, this particular shot required use of a tripod with the camera set on timer. If Bean was actually looking in the direction of the camera, 'someone' didn't like her facial expression, or her clothes did not give off the best look.

Each time, Lou Lou would set the timer and run to get

into place before the 10 seconds expired and the photo snapped, and it never failed that Bean would want to jump from Papa to Lou Lou or some 'noise' in the trees would catch Bean's attention. That set off a complaint from Papa about his arm starting to hurt.

Then, because everything was taking longer than normal with Bean added to the family photo, Sister began to perspire. She let Lou Lou know quite reverently that she was HOT!

Eventually, Lou Lou gave in and called the photo shoot done for the day. Never one to give up easily, Lou Lou went ahead and created a Christmas card proof...she thought all was good until she showed Sister. Any thought of it getting approval was shot down almost immediately! So, as of this week's writing, Lou Lou is still trying to get the crew ready once more so said card can be created!

Wish her luck...she is going to need it with those three — Papa, Sister and Bean!

Until next time...Keep Smiling and God Bless!

Elba, Alabama Chamber...

@elbaalbamachamber



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OBITUARIES

JOSHUA ROY MEHAFFEY

Mr. Joshua Roy Mehaffey, age 37, of Jack, Ala., died Tuesday, December 1, 2020, at Troy Regional Medical Center in Troy, Alabama.

Graveside services will be held from New Hope Cemetery on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020,



at 2 p.m., with Rev. Keith Price officiating. Visitation will be at Hayes Funeral Home on Saturday from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to help pay burial expenses.

Survivors include his daughter: Khloe Jayde Mehaffey, Jack; mother: Tammy Luther, Jack; father: Roy Mehaffey Jr., Jack; and sister: Brandy Koon, Phenix City, Ala.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2020, and Monday, Nov. 30, 2020, conducted the following activity:

Tuesday, Nov. 24 — Suspicious circumstances reported at 318 Smith Ave (2:41 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 435 Reese Ave (8:07 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 716 Davis St W (12:39 p.m.); Burglary reported at 2130 Taylor Mill Rd (2:29 p.m.); Unruly juvenile reported at 1068 Morrow Ave (2:42 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 1105 Neil Grantham Dr (5:05 p.m.); Prowler reported at 1015 Guyton St (11:02 p.m.). There were three traffic stops reported on this date with all resulting in a verbal warning.

Wednesday, Nov. 25 — Suspicious person reported at 322 Court Ave (12:15 a.m.); Suspicious person reported on Neil Grantham Dr (12:16 a.m.); Fight reported at 315 Sawyer St (3:18 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Forest Hill Dr (6:49 a.m.); Reckless driver reported on Claxton Ave S (12:10 p.m.); Missing person reported at 20378 Hwy 189 (1:33 p.m.); Suspicious person reported on Neil Grantham Dr (6:38 a.m.).

There were four traffic stops on this date with two verbal warnings and two written warnings.

Thursday, Nov. 26 — Livestock in the roadway reported on Larkin Rd (11:03 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 19810 Hwy 87 (11:37 a.m.); Elba FD dispatched to 866 Cedar Lane Dr (12:02 p.m.); Prowler reported on Reese Ave (9:37 p.m.). There was one traffic stop reported on this date with a verbal warning.

Friday, Nov. 27 — Suspicious vehicle reported on Tiger Dr (2:43 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 1015 Guyton St — resulted in an arrest (11:12 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported on Williams Ave S — resulted in an arrest (1:08 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 911 Farris Ave (3:46 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 76 County Rd 368 (4:34 p.m.); Harassment reported at 1221 Jones Circle (5:08 p.m.). There were two traffic stops on this date with one citation issued and one written warning.

Saturday, Nov. 28 — Suspicious vehicle reported on Cedar Lane Dr (4:50 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Hwy 84 (11:18 a.m.); Drug activity reported at 851 Claxton Ave N (12:51 p.m.); Burglary reported on Hwy 203 (2:01 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 435 Newton St (2:24 p.m.); Burglary reported at 1315 Hickman Ave (5:45 p.m.); Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle reported at 120 Old Samson Rd (6:27 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1315 Hickman Ave (9:07 p.m.). There were two traffic stops reported on this date with verbal warnings on each.

Sunday, Nov. 29 — Prowler reported at 825 Troy Hwy (7:39 p.m.). There were four traffic stops on this date with no action on one, a citation issued on one, a written warning on one, and an arrest made on one.

Monday, Nov. 30 — Assist another agency on Hwy 84 (1:17 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 989 County Rd 400 (3:02 p.m.); Animal complaint reported on Putnam St (4:38 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1285 Ann St (6:46 p.m.); Suspicious person reported in area of Davis St and Claxton Ave (10:11 p.m.). There were three traffic stops on this date with one written warning, one verbal warning and one advice given.

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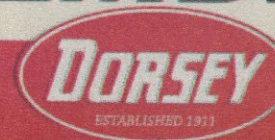
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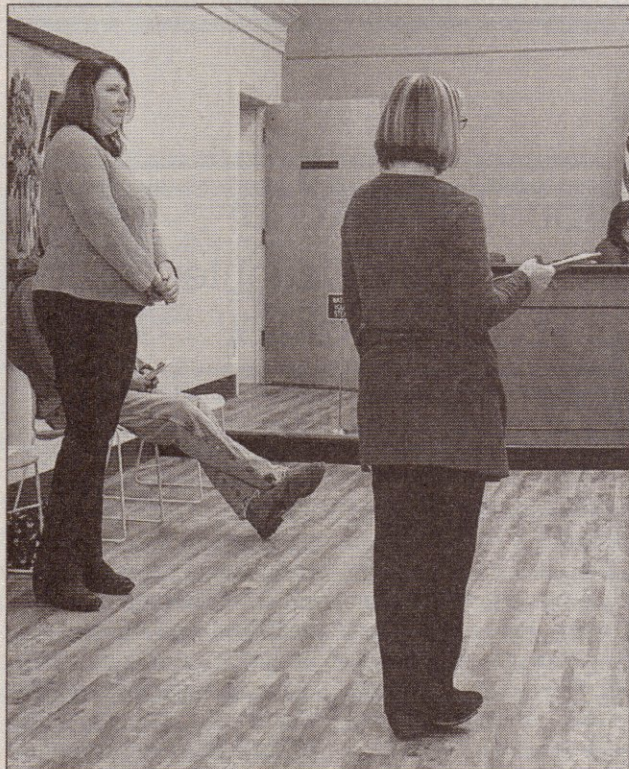
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During the Elba City Council meeting held Monday evening, Nov. 30, at Elba City Hall, current assistant city clerk Pat Boothe introduced Jennifer Hornsby (left) to the council. Hornsby has been hired by the city to be the new assistant city clerk/bookkeeper. She begins work Thursday, Dec. 3, and will work with Boothe, who is retiring in 2021, and city clerk Sally Bane.

ELBA (Continued from Page ONE)

Also, while addressing the council, Wood gave a report on the levee. He said the levee was inspected on May 20, 2020 and the city received the report back on Nov. 20, 2020 from that inspection.

He said there are three main areas to the report – general items, levee embankment, and interior drainage. Also, there are three ratings – acceptable, minimally acceptable, and unacceptable.

Of 28 area graded, Wood said the city received 19 acceptable marks, eight minimally acceptable marks, and one unacceptable. He said the minimally acceptable areas mostly dealt with vegetation issues and the track on the flood gate at the Pea River bridge while the unacceptable mark was a flood gate erosion issue in one area.

Wood said the flood gate at the Pea River bridge needs repairing as the concrete is busted and the track is broken. He said the flood gate can still be closed; although in the current condition it may not be done as designed.

Wood said all flood gate pipes and culverts need a video inspection to look for internal issues. He said the internal inspections should

be done every five years, and the last internal inspection in Elba was 2013.

Wood said he had spoken with the camera crew currently in Elba working on the sewer system project, and he said they feel this is something they could do for the city. He said the city and that company would be getting together on pricing, etc.

Boothe said the idea is that maybe the city could get a better price from this company in that they are already in the city working on another project.

While giving her report to the council, Boothe introduced Jennifer Hornsby. She has been hired as the new assistant city clerk for Elba and will begin work on Thursday, Dec. 3rd. Boothe said Hornsby has a Bachelor's degree in accounting, and everyone is really excited to have her join the city's team.

Boothe said the downtown water main replacement project was expected to begin this week. Along with that project, she said another contractor would be replacing 147 fire hydrants in the city.

Prior to adjourning, the council voted to hold both required meetings for the month of December on the evening of Dec. 14th.

Alabamians urged to take responsibility and slow transmission of COVID-19 virus

State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Mary McIntyre cautioned Alabamians last week about rising rates of COVID-19 and asked citizens to be vigilant during the days ahead.

The spread of the virus has resulted in the greatest increases in hospitalizations since July, and for the past six weeks there have been at least 1,000 new cases per day. In July, Alabama hospitals were at maximum capacity.

The statistics are alarming—there have been more than 230,000 individual cases in Alabama so far with 1.5 percent of cases resulting in death (3,459). This is about 15 times the death rate from influenza. In seniors age 75 and older the risk is far greater.

"We are not going to get 'a do over,' but there are things you can do to stop the unchecked spread in many parts of Alabama," Dr. Harris said. "Please think about it and take responsibility for your behavior."

Encouraging COVID-19 vaccine development efforts continue. Pharmaceutical companies Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca have announced they have developed promising vaccines that are safe and highly effective. The Food and Drug Administration Advisory Committee will evaluate them and make recommendations, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices will review, and Operation Warp Speed will ship and preposition vaccine shipments to avoid unne-

cessary delays.

Input to determine priorities of when groups will receive vaccine has come from a committee of 50-60 stakeholders from across the state and the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force. Alabama's vaccination allocation plan defines populations and the order in which they will receive vaccine in four phases. The plan can be viewed at <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/assets/adph-covid19-vaccination-allocation-plan.pdf>

The vaccine will be free for all Americans.

There is also good news in therapeutics for non-hospitalized patients with mild or moderate confirmed cases of COVID-19. Eli Lilly and Company's investigational monoclonal antibody therapeutic, bamlanivimab, received emergency use authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Bamlanivimab has already been used in Montgomery. Close to 40 Alabama hospitals have placed orders for it, and a supply is expected to be delivered this week.

The public is reminded to protect themselves and others from COVID-19 by staying at home as much as possible, wearing facial coverings as much as is practical, washing hands, avoiding large gatherings, maintaining good hygiene, socially distancing, and knowing their COVID-19 status. Health officials urge everyone to protect vulnerable people from COVID-19.

Obituaries

Death notices updated regularly on our website at <www.elba-clipper.com>

WALTER EDMOND COMPTON

Mr. Walter Edmond "Ed" Compton, age 88, of Elba, Ala., died Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at Medical Center Enterprise.

Graveside services were held November 28, 2020 from Evergreen Cemetery in Elba with Rev. Donnie Marler officiating. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba, directed the service. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Alabama Baptist Children's Home, 325 Ross Clark Circle, Dothan, AL 36301.

At the time of his death, Ed was survived by his wife, Peggy Pauline Compton of Elba; however, she passed away four days later on Sunday, Nov. 29, 2020.

Survivors include his sons: Tom (Nena) Compton, Chancellor, Ala., and Phillip (Summer) Compton, Elba; daughter: Pamela (Danny) Jordan, Elba; brother: Glaster (Bertha) Compton; 12 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and one great great-grandchild.

PEGGY PAULINE COMPTON

Mrs. Peggy Pauline Compton, age 85, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, November 29, 2020, at Capital Regional Medical Center in Tallahassee, Fla.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2020 from Evergreen Cemetery in Elba [10 a.m.] with Rev. Donnie Marler officiating. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directed the service. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to First Baptist Church of Elba, P. O. Box 507, Elba, AL 36323 in Peggy's honor.

She was preceded in death four days prior by her husband, Ed Compton.

Survivors include her sons: Tom (Neina) Compton, Chancellor, Ala., and Phillip (Summer) Compton, Elba; daughter: Pamela (Danny) Jordan, Elba; 12 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and one great great-grandchild.



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Grief and Depression

When you lose a loved one, it's only natural to feel sad. Those feelings of melancholy may persist for weeks or even months, and that's okay. However, there are differences between normal feelings of grief and clinical depression. It's important to be aware of the signs and symptoms of the latter and to seek care when necessary.

Spotting the differences between grief and depression can be challenging, as there is certainly some overlap between them. Both grief and depression can result in intense sadness, insomnia, a poor appetite, and weight loss.

One key difference, however, is grief tends to abate over time - and it can also come in waves. For example, certain people or situations may help you feel better, at least temporarily. Depression, meanwhile, is much more persistent and pervasive.

Some additional signs that it's depression, not grief, that you're dealing with: You have feelings of guilt that are unrelated to your grief; You have thoughts about committing suicide; You have low self-esteem or become preoccupied by how "worthless" you are; You become sluggish, hesitant, or confused in your speech; You have prolonged difficulty in carrying out simple, day-to-day tasks.

These are all signs you have clinical depression and should seek treatment. This could be as simple as regular therapy sessions, or it may include the use of antidepressant medications.

It's important to remember that bereavement is natural and normal - but depression is something altogether different. If you believe you are struggling with depression, make sure you reach out to someone who can help you find the treatment you need.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesth@hayesfuneralhome.net

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225

JOYCE NELL SKINNER

Ms. Joyce Nell Skinner, age 73, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, November 29, 2020, at Troy Health & Rehabilitation in Troy, Ala.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2020 [2 p.m.] from the New Haven Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Donnie Marler officiating. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directed the service.

Survivors include her son: Lee Skinner, Elba; grandson: Jackson Skinner, Jack, Ala.; sisters: Betty Bryan and Eloise Kirkpatrick, both of Columbus, Ga.; Rita Dubisar, Wanda Machicote, and Pat Mauldin, all of Elba; and Shirley Averett, Denham Springs, La.



WILLARD AARON MASSEY

Mr. Willard Aaron Massey, age 85, of Panama City, Fla., formerly of Elba, Ala., died Monday, November 23, 2020, at Ascension Sacred Heart Bay in Panama City.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Nov. 28, 2020 from Hebron Baptist Church with Rev. Derek Snellgrove officiating. Burial services followed in the Hebron Baptist Church Cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home, of Elba.

Mr. Massey was preceded in death by his brother - Robert Massey.

Survivors include his wife: Mary Jean Massey, Panama City; sons: Dennis Aaron (Bobbie) Massey, Panama City, Joseph C. (Rita) Massey, Ft. Myer, Va., and Paul A. (Debbie) Massey, Panama City; six grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren; along with special family - Scharlene Harrington, Janet Moore, and Jerry Ward Sr.

JAMES L. BAKER

Mr. James L. Baker, age 72, of Troy, Ala., died Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at his residence.

Funeral services were held Friday, Nov. 27, 2020, at Skeen Funeral Home Chapel in Troy with Pastor Wilburn Kirkland officiating.

James was born April 9,

1948, in Ozark, Ala., to the late Marvin Baker and Savannah Johnson Baker. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Chris Baker; a daughter, Tammy Mims; two grandsons, Brandon and Glen Mims; two sisters, Betty Folmar and Tiny Green.

Survivors include his wife: Brenda Baker; sons: Greg Baker (Lynn), Marty Baker (Kelli), and Danny Ray Owens (Kelly); daughters: Diane Helmsstetter (Phil), Teresa Campbell (Cowboy), and Tabatha Galloway (Chad); grandchildren: Chris Baker (Amanda), Chris Reaves, Michael Saizan, John Baker, Mason Owens, Wrangler Campbell, Justin Mims and Blake Mims, Kasey Parent, Little Marty Baker, Makayla Pinkerton (Michael), Hayle Galloway, and Jasmine Barnes (Rustin); eight great-grandchildren, and special nephews, Bo Holder (Pam) and Marvin Holder.

FAX SERVICE AVAILABLE AT THE ELBA CLIPPER

FOIE MAE WILLIS COOKE

Mrs. Foie Mae Willis Cooke, age 100, of Milton, Fla., died Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, 2020.

Foie was born in Coffee County, Alabama on Dec. 17, 1919. She was the daughter of George Marvin Willis and Ture Ellen Bryant. As a child she moved with her family from Coffee County to Santa Rosa County, Florida. She retired from Vanity Fair, with 20 years of service.

Visitation will be held Friday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. - 12 noon with services following. Services will be conducted by Rev. Tony Antonelli.

She was preceded in death by her husband Clifford M Cooke, three children - Barbara French, June Keesler, Andy Cooke, and all eight of her siblings.

She is survived by Gayle (Joe) Mullis of Pace, Fla. She is also survived by Gary (Cecilia) Cooke of Denton, Texas. She had 14 grandchildren and many great grandchildren and great great-grandchildren.



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■ Determine which Part D Plan best fits your needs
■ Enroll in a plan of your choice ■ File a Medicare claim or appeal
■ Answer questions about your health insurance

CHURCH NEWS

Pastor's Corner

by Philip Box, Minister
Elba Church of Christ
715 Troy Road, Elba, AL

How to Have a White Christmas Matthew 1:21 and Isaiah 1:18

My wife and children can't wait for the holiday season to begin each year. Traditionally we take a family vacation the week of Thanksgiving and starting the day after it's Christmas music nonstop. My friend, Ken, reminded me recently that we can learn and be reminded of great bible lessons through those Christmas songs.

There are a lot of songs that have become a part of our culture and Christmas celebration. I think of the song, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. Many do not realize that the song originally was intended to teach certain Biblical truths to young people.

There was a period of time in England when Christians were not able to practice their faith openly so they had to find other ways to pass on their beliefs. The song *The Twelve Days of Christmas* is one example of how they did it. The song goes:

- "On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me..." The "true love" represents God and "me" represents those who are Christians and have received God's gifts.

- "Partridge in a pear tree" represented Jesus Christ who died on a tree as a gift from God.

- "Two turtle doves" were the Old and New Testaments, another gift from God.

- "Three French hens" represented faith, hope, and love.

- "Four calling birds" spoke of the 4 Gospels that tell the story of salvation.

- "Five golden rings" spoke of the first 5 books of the Bible.

- "Six geese a laying" spoke of the days of creation.

- "Seven swans a swimming" spoke of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

- "Eight maids a milking" spoke of the 8 beatitudes.

- "Nine ladies dancing" spoke of the 9 fruits of the Spirit.

- "Ten lords a leaping" spoke of the 10 Commandments.

- "Eleven pipers piping" spoke of the eleven faithful disciples.

- "Twelve drummers drumming" spoke of the 12 Apostles.

Many songs we sing are just fun! *Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer*, *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*, *Jingle Bells*, and so on, but be looking for lessons! Another popular song is, *I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas*, the idea is that it might snow at Christmas time, but this song could remind us of the forgiveness that comes through Jesus Christ. And it doesn't have to be just a dream, forgiveness can be yours through faithful obedience to God's plan.

"Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool." Psalm 51:7 ESV

Newbia Baptist Church announces Christmas services planned this month

Newbia Baptist Church, located on Coffee County Road 330, northwest of Elba, announces upcoming Christmas services planned for later this month.

On Sunday, Dec. 20, the church will host its Christmas Cantata program at 5

p.m. This program will be held outdoors and refreshments will be served.

On Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, the church will conduct a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6 p.m.

All are invited to attend these services.

Let us share your church news!

Email Linda Hodge

at clipperace@troycable.net

or call (334) 897-2823 fax (334) 897-3434

Ben E. Keith's Kelley Foods announces partnership with Folds of Honor group

Kelley Foods, a division of Ben E. Keith Foods, announced a branding partnership with Folds of Honor Foundation, whose mission is to provide educational scholarships to spouses and children of America's fallen and disabled service-members.

Kelley Foods will donate a portion of proceeds from the sale of each case of its most popular retail items. "Kelley Foods is very proud to have the opportunity to build upon the Ben E. Keith Foods partnership with Folds of Honor," said Randy Tollison, Vice President Manufacturing, Ben E.

Keith Foods.

The Folds of Honor sponsorship with Kelley Foods Southeast retail partners was launched on Veteran's Day in November.

Kelley Foods Plant Manager Kenneth Hattaway anticipates the selected products will be available at least through the end of the year. The featured products will be the Kelley Foods branded Rope Smoked Sausage (1 lb. & 6 lb.), Baby Rope Smoked Sausage (1 lb. & 6 lb.) plus our newest item Jalapeño & Cheddar Rope Smoked Sausage (12 oz.).

Round and About with Eria's Daughter (334) 897-3611



Scripture: The Eternal Reign of the Lord. Psalms 93: 1-5

Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Isaiah Franklin Jr., Warren (Pete) Blecher, Min. Robert Edwards, Rebecca W. Daniels, Barbara K. Smith, Sick/Shut-Ins, Mamie Belcher, Bernice Culver, Jamie Brockton

November Birthdays / Anniversaries

Henry Rayborn 11/19
Jasmine White 11/19 (in memory)
Ted Horstead 11/20
Laila Gulley 11/21
Annette Hammonds 11/21
Maria Kelley Duncan 11/22
Wendy Wood 11/22
Matthew Bright 11/23
Lady Byrd Rodgers 11/23
Rev. V.J. Coleman 11/24 (in memory)
Jalen Fitch 11/24
Aubretta Williams Mitchell 11/24

** Grieving for a Fallen Leader

"The President has been shot!" Most of us who were teens or adults in the United States on November 22, 1963 can remember where we were when we heard those fateful words about President John F. Kennedy.

A man who was then a seminary student recalls that he was approaching the classroom building where two other students were discussing what had taken place. Just then a professor known for his partisan politics came out the door and asked what had happened. On hearing the news, his unthinking response was to utter words he would later regret: "Someone should have done it a long time ago!" As you might expect, news of his crass remark spread across the campus like wildfire. The following day he was forced to

make a public apology. One of the blessings of living in a democratic society is that we can have a part in choosing our political leaders and can criticize them without fear of reprisal when they do not conduct themselves or the affairs of state as we think they should. Sometimes we find it difficult to honor the office while criticizing the person who holds it. David's grief at the death of Saul provides a helpful model for us. Even though Saul had tried to kill David, David made his personal concerns subservient to the greater importance of his nation's well-being. Whenever our political leaders disappoint us, David's example is worth remembering. — C.R.B.

Question / Answer Section Q/A for the Week of 11/26/2020

True or False

Q: After Jesus was arrested He was taken to the high priests' house.

A: True [Luke 22: 54]

Q: Pilate ended his conversation with Jesus by asking "What is Truth?"

A: True [John 18: 38]

Q: Both of Timothy's parents were of Jewish descent.

A: False [Acts 16: 1, 3]

Thought to Remember

If you are not close to God who moved?

Questions for the Week of 12/3/2020

Multiple Choice

Q: Before going on any missionary journey, Barnabas and Saul met for an entire year with a church in what city? (Antioch), (Alexandria), or (Nazareth)

Q: The chief priests claimed to have no king but whom? (Caesar), (Pilate), or (Jesus)

Today is a good day! Be grateful!
Eria's Daughter, Sue

If Your Church is Not Active
with the
Elba Ministerial Alliance
call 334-897-2057 to learn more or
to join the Alliance!

1 OUT OF 10 ELDERLY PERSONS AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE BEING: Abused, Neglected or Exploited

If you suspect this is happening to someone you know, please report it to Adult Protective Services by contacting your local DHR office or calling the ADULT ABUSE HOTLINE at 1-800-458-7214

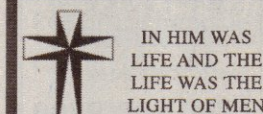
HELP STOP THE ABUSE IF YOU SEE IT, REPORT IT



There's no excuse for
ELDER ABUSE

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Church Directory



IN HIM WAS
LIFE AND THE
LIGHT OF MEN

**ABOUNDING GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Rockey Pearce, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

**ABUNDANT LIFE
CHURCH**
Richard Thorne Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**ALBERTON BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sam Self, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

BETHEL AME CHURCH
Rev. Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**BETHLEHEM BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Class... 6:30 p.m.

**BETHANY BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Greg Cotter, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train... 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:30 p.m.

**BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Tom Senn, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPT CHURCH
Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.

**CHESTNUT GROVE METH-
ODIST**

Rev. Remonia Smith
Church Service... 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

**CORNERSTONE BIBLE
CHURCH**

Larry Mills, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night... 7:00 p.m.

COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH

Diana White, Pastor
Bible Study... 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship... 9:45 a.m.
Worship... 10:00 a.m.

Wed. Night (Youth Real Deal and Children's Activities) ... 6:00 p.m.

DAMASCUS BAPT. CHURCH

Steve Watson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH

Dale Morgan, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship Training 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wed. 7:00 p.m.

EAON BAPTIST CHURCH

Mark Ward, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:15 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST

Phillip Box, Minister
Bible Study... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD

David Noble, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:45 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.

**ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
OF PROPHECY**

H.L. Buckner, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night... 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. Night... 7:00 p.m.

**ELBA DELIVERANCE
TABERNACLE**

Allen Richards, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Dwight Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA 1st BAPTIST CHURCH

Tom Anderson, Interim Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

**ELBA UNITED METHOD-
IST CHURCH**

Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Services... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPT. CHURCH

Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.

EVANGELIST TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Timothy Williams, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

FAIRVIEW BAPT CHURCH

Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:30 p.m.

**FAITH CHAPEL
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Phillip Adcock, Pastor
Sunday Morning... 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD -
KINSTON**

Danny Bradshaw, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:15 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Scott Donaldson, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP HOLINESS
CHURCH**

Edward E. Drake, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 5:00 p.m.

**GODS EVENING HOUSE
EVANGELISTIC CHURCH**

Overseers - Bro Billy Berry
Sat. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Sun. Service... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 4:00 p.m.

GRACE FELLOWSHIP

John Curtis Isaacs, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

**GREATER NEW ZION
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Willie L. Peterson, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.

HARRIS TEMPLE COGIC

W. K. Ellison, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.

**HAM UNITED METHOD-
IST CHURCH**

Rev. Steve Reneau, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**HAW HILL ASSEMBLY OF
GOD**

Shirley Ellis, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

HEBRON BAPT. CHURCH

Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

INO ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Wesley D. Ard, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting... 6:30 p.m.

INO BAPTIST CHURCH

Garry Winstead, Pastor
Sunday School... 8:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Matthew Morris, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:15 p.m.

KINSTON 1st BAPT CHURCH

Ben Posey, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

LIVING WORD CHURCH

Derrick Stinson, Pastor
Saturday Service... 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. Service... 6:00 p.m.

**LIBERTY CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

Greg Hanchey, Minister
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

LOVE'S WAY CHURCH

Charles Jones, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

**MT. CALVARY BAPTIST
CHURCH**

J. R. Parks, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
1st & 3rd Sundays

**MT. GILEAD BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Dewey Emfinger, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:00 p.m.

MT. OLIVE BAPT. CHURCH

Olan Strickland, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**MT. ZION BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Kevin Byrd, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Loreal Flowers, Minister
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

OAK GROVE BAPT. CHURCH

Julian Mitchell, Pastor
1st... 4th Sun. Morn.
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.

**OLD TABERNACLE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

Lee Jones, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.

PERDUE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Evening... 7:00 p.m.
Friday Evening... 7:00 p.m.

**PINEY GROVE AS-
SEMBLY OF GOD - SAM-
SON**

Terry McCrummen, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Disciple Train... 5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Worship... 7:00 p.m.

**PRAYSE & GLORY
WORSHIP CENTER**

Roy L. Turner, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

**ROCKY HEAD M.B.
CHURCH**

A. R. Williams, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.<

SPORTS NEWS

Views From
The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our grandson Lawson loves hamburgers, chicken fingers, french fries, and macaroni and cheese out of the box. So, I knew he may be a little hungry last week after sitting down to a Thanksgiving dinner that included turkey, cornbread dressing, string bean casserole, corn casserole and homemade mac and cheese. He did at least taste the turkey, but didn't even eat a roll before heading back to the couch to play video games with his cousins. Oh well, more leftovers for the adults.

For what it is worth....

*** *The much delayed basketball season* is scheduled to tip off next week for the Elba Tigers with a trip to Kinston, and while nothing is set in stone in these days of the pandemic, since most of the team was in quarantine the last two weeks, maybe they will at least finally get to start the season. Elba is expected to have a much-improved team after last year's disaster and is anxious to hit the court, while the Lady Tigers are anxious to get back on the court after being embarrassed in their season opener two weeks ago against Enterprise. There is no doubt the season will be unlike any before, but all the players have been hard at work and really want to get back on the court.

*** *Rumors circulating from coaches* and officials across the state hint that the AHSAA will take another look at just how long the basketball season will continue once this week's state football playoffs have concluded. There was no way the state could shut down one sport and let another continue to play, and many believe the recent outbreak of the virus and massive number of students being quarantined could lead to the sport being shut down, at least for a while. I believe that until all the schools in the state follow strict 'mandated' guidelines from the state, the problems will continue with the virus being spread in warm and crowded gyms. I know no one likes to be told what to do, but someone in authority has to take a deep breath and issue mandates concerning high school sports, if they are going to exist.

*** *A popular phrase in our nation's capital* over the past four years has been the need to 'drain the swamp,' and after last week's state football playoff game in Linden many Brantley fans will be saying the same thing about the Patriots football field. The game was played on a field that many fans insisted looked more like a hog pen than a football field, and neither team was able to display their skills on the field that was covered with more mud than grass. Anyway, Brantley saw its banner season come to an end with a 22-7 loss to Linden in a game that saw the Bulldogs go up and down the field, but fail to score points, while the Patriots rarely moved the chains, but used three big plays to score three touchdowns and advanced to the 1A finals. Brantley moved to inside the Linden 40-yardline on all five of its first half possessions, but came away with only seven points, and in the second half moved inside the Linden 30-yardline three times, and once even moved inside the ten, but never got back in the endzone. It was a frustrating night for everyone from Brantley, but one game doesn't define a season, and the Bulldogs 13-1 record will last forever in the rich history of Brantley Bulldog football.

*** *The state high school football playoffs* held their semifinal games last week and it was quite a week of action. Abbeville outscored Leroy 60-45 in a game that saw touchdowns scored on seven straight fourth quarter possessions as the Yellowjackets advanced to the state finals for the first time since way back in 1971, while defending 2A champ Fyffe battled past defending 3A champ Piedmont 14-6 to make it back to the state finals in 3A, and Mars Hill Bible rolled through Spring Garden 32-14 to make it to the 2A finals after reaching the state finals the past two seasons in 1A. Twelve of the fourteen teams playing in this week's state championship games were #1 seeds entering the post-season, with only Pickens County in 1A and Pleasant Grove in 5A making it all the way as #2 seeds. All the teams in the finals boast excellent records, as expected, with Pickens County in 1A and Spanish Fort in 6A having the most losses with three. Undefeated teams include Linden in 1A, Fyffe in 3A, St. Paul's in 5A and Thompson in 7A.

*** *Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator* dropped by for the 15th straight weekend to talk football and was still shaking his head over Brantley's semifinal loss to Linden. He declared that if the Bulldogs and Patriots met 10 times the Bulldogs would win at least eight times, but admitted that Linden had a really good defense and earned its way to the finals. The local guesspert was a little disappointed in last week's 4-3 record, but did leave this week's choices for the state finals. Here goes.... (7A) Thompson 35 Auburn 10, (6A) Pinson Valley 21 Spanish Fort 14, (5A) St. Paul's 17 Pleasant Grove 14, (4A) Handley 28 Gordo 14, (3A) Fyffe 28 Montgomery Catholic 10, (2A) Mars Hill Bible 42 Abbeville 26, (1A) Linden 32 Pickens County 12.

HIGH SCHOOL
BASKETBALL SCHEDULES**Thursday, Dec. 3**

Red Level at Kinston
New Brockton at Northside Methodist
Wicksburg at Zion Chapel

Monday, Dec. 7

Kinston at Opp

Tuesday, Dec. 8

Elba at Kinston

Wicksburg at New Brockton

Thursday, Dec. 10

Elba at Houston Academy



Brantley Bulldog Kenuwyn Dixon (1) heads upfield for a short gain in last week's 22-7 playoff loss to Linden.



Brantley Bulldog Tucker Kilcrease (12) drops off a short pass to Daquan Pittman (5) for a key first down in last week's playoff action.

Ousted from playoffs 22-7**Bulldogs bog down in Linden**

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor
Photos by Cody Nichols

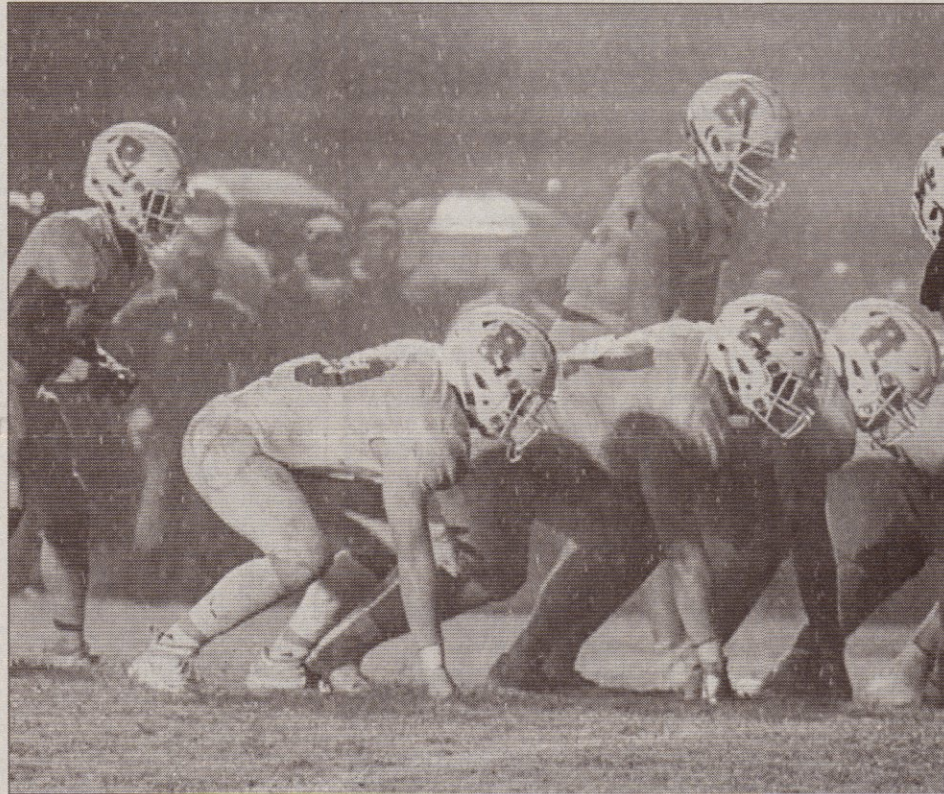
The top-ranked Brantley Bulldogs saw their season long trip toward a state title hit a dead end Friday night on a muddy patch of ground in Linden as the second-ranked Linden Patriots used two big plays on defense and one big play on offense to upset the Bulldogs 22-7, in the semifinals of the Class 1A state football playoffs.

Brantley had two opportunities to grab an early lead in the first quarter after a fumble on a punt attempt and a pass interception by Morrell Edwards twice set the Bulldogs up inside the Linden 40-yardline.

Brantley was forced to punt after the first turnover, but headed toward the endzone after the Edwards' interception and reached a first down at the Linden 14-yardline after an 18-yard pass completion from Tucker Kilcrease to Kenuwyn Dixon. A penalty backed the Bulldogs up to the 24; however, and on the next play disaster struck as the Patriots Joshua Williams stepped in front of a pass near the goal line and returned the interception 97 yards for a touchdown. Williams also ran in the two-point conversion as Linden grabbed an 8-0 lead late in the first quarter.

Brantley began its next possession at its own 36-yardline and behind the running of Tucker Kilcrease and a key third down pass from Kilcrease to Kedrick Brown drove to a first down at the Linden 31-yardline. A quarterback sack and a loss on a running play moved the Bulldogs back to the 42-yardline, and on third down disaster struck again as what appeared to be an incomplete pass was ruled a fumble, and Linden's Jamarus Williams scooped up the loose football and rambled 56 yards for a Patriot score. A two-point pass missed its target, but with 11:45 remaining in the second quarter Linden owned a 14-0 lead.

The Bulldogs failed to move the chains on their ensuing possession, but regained possession at the Linden 44-yardline after a short 21-yard punt, and this time covered the 44 yards in 11 plays to get on the score-



Brantley Bulldogs line up on offense in a steady rain in last week's 22-7 playoff loss to Linden. The Bulldogs ended the season with a 13-1 record.

board. Kedrick Brown rushed for 18 yards on four carries to help lead Brantley down the field, while Tucker Kilcrease rushed for 14 yards on five carries and scored the touchdown on a 1-yard run. Carson Jones added the extra-point as the Bulldogs pulled within 14-7 with 2:02 left in the half.

Linden began its initial offensive series of the third quarter at its own 22-yardline after a Bulldog punt and needed only three plays to regain command as on third down and five Joshua Williams spotted a hole in the middle of the field and raced 73 yards for a Patriot touchdown. Zelly Aldridge ran in the two-point conversion, as Linden's lead grew to 22-7 early in the third quarter.

Brantley began its ensuing possession at its own 40-yardline and began a 15 play drive that ate up over six minutes off the clock. Tucker Kilcrease and Kenuwyn Dixon sparked the drive that included three third down conversions and set the Bulldogs up with a first down at the Linden 23-yardline. However, this time the Bulldogs failed to convert on third down, and when a fourth down pass fell incomplete the long drive ended without points.

The Bulldogs got the ball right back at the Linden 46-yardline after a short 15-yard punt and after a 22-yard run by Tucker Kil-

crease on fourth down Brantley was right back in business with a first down at the Linden 19. Kilcrease and Dixon helped the 'Dogs reach a first down and goal at the seven, but a 4-yard loss on second down and an incomplete pass resulted in a fourth down at the nine, and Kilcrease was sacked for an 11-yard loss on the fourth down play as the Bulldogs again came away empty-handed.

Brantley had one final possession and this time reached the Linden 30-yardline on a fourth down pass from Kilcrease to Khalik Smith. However, a 15-yard penalty on third down left the Bulldogs facing a fourth down and 22, and when a fourth down pass missed its target, the Bulldogs last gasp hope for a win had ended, as Linden ran out the clock to post the 22-7 win.

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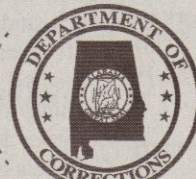
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Enterprise State Community College's Fine Arts Christmas Concert and Student Art Show is going virtual this year.

The annual ESCC event showcases student talent and work from the fall semester. The community is traditionally invited to attend and meet with the students about the art pieces and watch student performances. Last year, the event coincided with the grand opening of the renovated Forrester Hall, home of the College's Fine Arts Division.

This year, the event will be offered to the community virtually as a prerecorded concert and art show that will be available online starting Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. The event will be featured on ESCC's Facebook, Instagram and Youtube pages.

Though the concert and art show will be offered to the community in a different format, the event will still be enjoyable for all who see it,

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IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA Elba Division

IN RE: The estate of JANE CASH, Deceased.

CASE NO. PC-2020-042

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to RUSSELL LAMAR CASH as Personal Representative of the estate of Jane Cash, deceased, on the 6th day of March, 2020, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Gary D. Bradshaw
Gary D. Bradshaw (BRA074)
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 311412
Enterprise, AL 36331-1412
(334) 393-6439 / (334) 393-7163 fax
11/19,26&12/3-pd.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OR ADMINISTRATOR

ESTATE OF BARBARA J. TURNER, DECEASED

PROBATE COURT PC 2020-066

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned the 10th day of November, 2020, by the Hon. Jodee Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred./s/ Lynda E. Turner, Co-Personal Representative
/s/ Lisa D. Turner Vaughan, Co-Personal Representative
11/19,26&12/3-pd.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF EDLOW ELKIN WILLIAMSON, DECEASED

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA CASE NUMBER PC 2020-061

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATE Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said decedent having been granted to the undersigned on the 11th day of November, 2020, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson,

son, Judge of Probate of said county in said State, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Timothy Elkin Williamson, Personal Representative of the Estate of Edlow Elkin Williamson, Deceased
11/19,26&12/3-pd.

IN THE MATTER OF MARILYN L. MCNABB, Deceased.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION CASE NO: PC-2020-048

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 29th day of October, 2020, by the Honorable, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.Witness my hand this the 29th day of October 2020.
/s/ NATORIA SHA-KI MCNABB
Personal Representative
11/19,26&12/3-pd.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PEGGY J. BOUTWELL, Deceased.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION CASE NO. PC-20-050

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Take notice that Letters Testamentary were granted to Jeffrey Boutwell and Dixie Boutwell, as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of Peggy J. Boutwell, deceased, on the 29th day of October, 2020, by the Judge of Probate for Coffee County, Alabama. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred./s/ Jeffrey Boutwell
/s/ Dixie Boutwell
Co-Personal Representatives
11/19,26&12/3-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA Elba Division

IN RE: The estate of TOMMY VANCE TYLER, Deceased.

CASE NO. PC 2020-031

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to TOBY TYLER as administrator of the estate of Tommy Vance Tyler, deceased, on the 25th day of March, 2020, by the Honorable Judge of Probate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Gary D. Bradshaw
Gary D. Bradshaw
Attorney for Petitioner
11/19, 26 & 12/3-chg.

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF R.M.M., A minor child
d/o/b 03/02/2020.

CASE NO. JU 2020-12.02 (FATHER)

NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS ACTION

Notice to: the unknown father, of R.M.M. dob 03/02/2020, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Coffee County Department of Human Resources' petition for Termination of Parental Rights and other relief by the 16th day of January, 2021, or, thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against him in Case No. 19 JU 2020-12.02, in the Juvenile Court of Coffee County, Alabama, Elba Division. A final hearing has not been set in this matter.

Done this, the 20th day of November, 2020.
Hon. Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Circuit
230 P Court Avenue
Elba, Alabama 36323
Juvenile Court of Coffee County, Alabama, Elba Division.David M. White
Attorney for CCDHR
P.O. Box 311412
Enterprise, Alabama 36331

11/26, 12/3,10&17-chg.

SERVICE AVAILABLE AT THE ELBA CLIPPER

FAX

ESCC's Fine Arts Christmas Showcase going virtual this year



Johnathan Doyle plays the piano located in the lobby of Forrester Hall where student art and pieces purchased by the Coffee County Arts Alliance will be showcased during the December event.

according to ESCC Fine Arts Division Chair Dr. Ken Thomas.

"This year's preparations have been quite challenging," Thomas said. "Due to limited time in face-to-face instruction, we have not been able to accomplish as much as we have done in past years. Still, we are optimistic and will provide a quality virtual performance for our community."

This year, the concert will feature performances by the ESCC Camerata, ESCC Concert Choir, ESCC Entertainers and the ESCC Percussion Ensemble. Musical pieces performed by these groups will include: "The Heavenly Prince of Peace," "Christmas is Coming," "Here We Come a-Wassailing," "Sing to the Lord (from Deus in Adjuvium)," "Psalm 100," "Total Praise," "For the

Beauty of the Earth," "Do You Hear What I Hear?," "Blame It on the Boogie," "Why We Sing," "Hot, Hot, Hot," "Seasons of Love," "Jump." Percussion pieces will include: "Trap Door," "Alfred's Complete Snare Drum Duets" and a solo performance of "Rudimental Snare Drum Solo." There will also be piano and vocal solos performed by students and instructors.

In addition to the musical performances, student art will also be featured as well as the Coffee County Arts Alliance President's purchases, with the pieces being highlighted and recorded as they hang in Forrester Hall prior to the event.

Thomas said it was important to showcase student talents and skills, even in a virtual format. He said it was especially important for this showcase to happen this year so that the students and the community feel a sense of

normalcy during the holiday season.

"If anything, this pandemic has made us more determined to present this event," he said. "We want things to be as 'normal' as possible in this abnormal year. I want the community to know that we are still working each day to provide them with a quality event to help ease the stress of this 'new normal.'"

"Our students are very talented, and the few times each week that they came to campus, they worked extremely hard to learn their music and the choreography. They deserve this opportunity to share their individual and collective talents, and our instructors need this probably more than the students. We always look forward to sharing the works of our students with our community, and now, more than ever, it drives home the importance of the arts and how the arts can be a source of strength to many."

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Joined four days and 50 miles by his grandson, Colin Arnold

Elba Parks and Rec director Greg Hanchey hikes 188 miles of Pinhoti Trail

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba Parks and Recreation director Greg Hanchey spent two weeks testing his fitness and endurance hiking the Pinhoti Trail in Alabama, and far exceeded his expectations for the adventure. Making the trip even more special were four days spent with his teenage grandson, Colin Arnold, as his hiking partner.

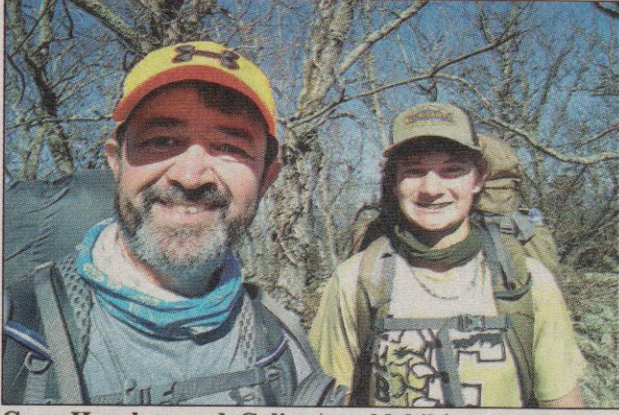
The Pinhoti is a 348 mile national recreation trail through Alabama and Georgia with the southern terminus of the trail beginning in East Central Alabama at Flagg Mountain near the Town of Weogufka. It also is considered the beginning of the Appalachian Mountains.

The Alabama portion of the Pinhoti is 177.6 miles.

"Over the summer I knew I wanted to do something hiking-wise," Hanchey said. "I didn't really know where, but originally, I knew I wanted to do a distance hike. I just didn't know how long."

Hanchey said he had plenty of vacation time built up through his job with the City of Elba, so, he knew he could try and take on a 2-week period hike if he could get a plan together. He said he first started looking at Tennessee, but soon discovered the Pinhoti in his research.

"I didn't really know anything about the Pinhoti, but I started looking into it, investigating and researching," he said. "I soon



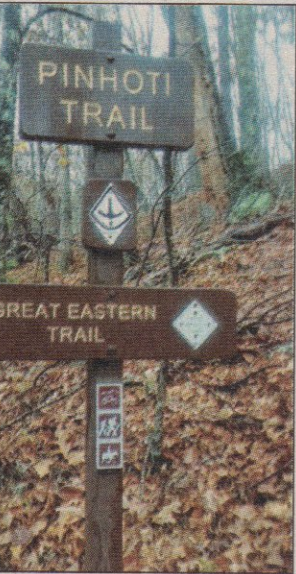
Greg Hanchey and Colin Arnold hiking the Pinhoti Trail in Alabama.

decided this would be good, and it would still be close to home. The Pinhoti is really a little known Alabama jewel – it was great."

The Pinhoti connects to the Benton Mackaye Trail near Blue Ridge, Ga., which connects to the renowned Appalachian Trail. Hanchey said there has been a push by some groups to connect the Pinhoti to the Appalachian Trail, making the Pinhoti the official beginning of the Appalachian Trail [at Flagg Mountain].

Also, he said the Pinhoti is a part of the Great Eastern Trail and the Eastern Continental Trail, both of which begin in Florida and pretty much go all the way to Canada.

After deciding to move forward with his plans to take on this physically grueling challenge, Hanchey said he asked Colin's



mom, Ashley, about the possibility of Colin joining him for a portion of the hike. He said he wanted to 'get her blessing first' before mentioning it to Colin, and she was all for the idea.

"He asked me if I wanted to go and gave me some time to think about it," Arnold said.

Once he agreed to go along, the preparations began.

"There should have been more on my part to prepare, but we did do a pretty good amount of practicing, especially getting used to wearing the [back]pack," Arnold said. "Other than that, you just pretty much have to be fit to be able to do it."

Wednesday, Nov. 11, arrived and Hanchey set out on his adventure starting at the beginning of the Pinhoti from Flagg Mountain. He had hiked 85 miles already when Colin joined him at



Greg reached the 100-mile point of his journey shortly after Colin joined him on trail.

the Cheaha Trailhead on Wednesday, Nov. 18th. That day, Nov. 18th, was the only day out of an entire two weeks that Hanchey did not walk the trail – he took what they call a zero day that day resting up and waiting for Colin to arrive.

"He came on the 18th but originally wasn't supposed to come until the 20th," Hanchey said. "He had gotten quarantined from school due to COVID and wanted to come earlier."

Hanchey said he made a big push to get through some pretty grueling rock fields when Colin decided to come a couple of days early.

"It is extremely hard to make it through those [rock] fields, and I didn't want him to start in a rock field and it be, right off the bat, not a good experience for him," Hanchey said. "I made it to Cheaha that Tuesday night and rested Wednesday awaiting Colin to arrive."

On Thursday, Nov. 19, Arnold joined Hanchey on the trail. He stayed on trail with his granddad, whom he calls Hank, through Sunday evening, Nov. 22nd. Overall, Arnold hiked 50 miles of the trail with Hanchey

can go and recharge," he said. "We would go a couple of days part of the way without seeing anybody, literally."

While there was not too much he said he disliked about the hike, Arnold did admit it there were some things that were more challenging than others, and, he is not big on sleeping outside.

"I not by any means an experienced hiker, but I had done some backpacking and hiked a little bit of the Appalachian Trail a few years back – like 50 miles or so over four or five days," Hanchey said. "The thing is when you are doing a hike like we did, it is kind of a wonderfully, miserable experience."

When it comes to hiking, he said the key is to "hike your own hike."

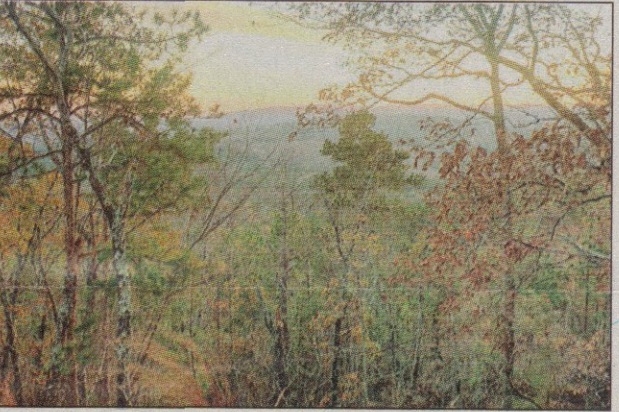
The Alabama Portion of the Pinhoti is divided into 13 sections with over 12 miles of road walks. The remaining 165 miles are through wooded areas. Each section is rated according to the level of difficulty – road walks are easy [12 miles]; of the wooded areas 64 miles is rated moderate, 18 miles is rated difficult, and 83 miles is rated very difficult.

"You're not out there to set any records," Hanchey said. "Just hike your own hike and enjoy it."

One thing both agreed on – they would not change going through this experience together for anything in the world.

"It was fun, and you become a little team out there," they said.

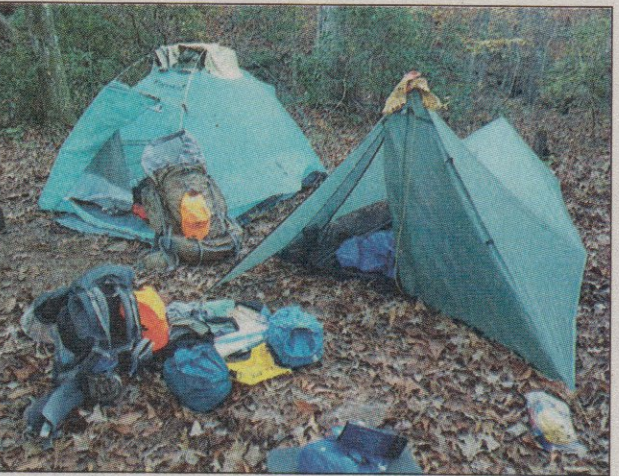
Looking ahead, Hanchey said he wouldn't mind hiking the same trail again, except in the opposite direction.



Both Greg and Colin agreed that views like this created peaceful moments they would never trade for anything.



The sections of the trail are rated according to their level of difficulty - from easy to very difficult.



Colin decided sleeping outdoors is not his favorite thing about hiking, but he said you just have to embrace it.



Greg at the Alabama/Georgia line of the Pinhoti Trail-177.6 miles from his start at Flagg Mountain. He finished his hike in Georgia at 188 miles total.

W&E

(Continued from Page One)

procedure in meetings.

Under new business, the board approved a motion to utilize Bart Boothe, the city attorney, as needed for general counsel matters. The board also voted to appoint Jane Brunson and Tom Maddox as its representatives on the PowerSouth Board.

The Fiscal Year 2021 budget was approved by the board. This budget includes a 50 cents per hour pay raise for employees. The pay raises should be effective with the first pay period in December.

Also, during Monday night's meeting, the board voted to approve paying monthly bills totaling \$290,253.43.

Due to the Christmas holidays, the board will conduct its December meeting on the evening of Monday, Dec. 14th. This meeting will follow the two city council meetings scheduled for that night as well.

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LIFESTYLES

Landmark Park's Victorian Christmas will be Sunday, Dec. 13, in Dothan, Alabama

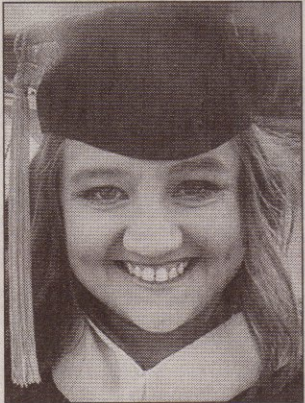
Join Landmark Park, Dothan, Ala., on Sunday, Dec. 13, from 1-4 p.m. for the annual Victorian Christmas! This open house brings about 3,000 visitors to the park for Christmas music, arts and crafts, a circuit riding preacher and more. Admission to visitors is free and visitors are encouraged to bring nonperishable food items for donation to the Food Bank.

Barnhill to graduate Dec. 11th with Master's degree from Troy

Mary and Donald Davis of Jack, Alabama announce the upcoming collegiate graduation of their eldest granddaughter, Nicole Barnhill.

Nicole will graduate Friday, Dec. 11, from Troy University with a Master's degree. She is married to Brandon Barnhill, and they have one daughter.

Nicole is the daughter of Jane Green and the late Freddie Napper of Jack.



Nicole Barnhill

Elba Masonic Lodge #170 holds chili cookoff event

It was a cold and windy night Monday, Nov. 30, with Autumn's first frost in the air. It was perfect night for a good bowl of Chili and even better for visiting with friends and neighbors at the ALMOST Annual "Pot Full of Fun" Chili Cook Off, hosted by the Elba Masonic Lodge #170.

This year's event was the biggest cook off yet with 13 entries in CHILI- SIDES-CORNBREAD and DESSERTS. Not a bad batch in the bunch. It was good and no one went home hungry.

Winners were:

- CHILI - 1st Place - Becky O'Heron 2nd Place - Dawn DeVane 3rd Place - Merlene Owens and Tara Arnold
- People's Choice - Dawn DeVane
- BEST CORNBREAD - Becky O'Heron
- BEST SIDE DISH - Ed Kelley
- BEST DESSERT - Becky O'Heron

The Lodge members extend thanks to the judges, Pete and Liz Hayes from The "It Don't Matter" Restaurant in Highland Home, Ala., and Richard Mays, The Johnson Center for the Arts, Troy Ala. =

Also, thanks to everyone who came out and had some fun with special thanks to Mike and Starla Amison for their help.



Becky O'Heron (left) won several awards at the cookoff event. She received first place for chili, along with best cornbread, and best dessert. Pictured with O'Heron is Mike Amison.



Dawn DeVane (left) was among the favorites at the Elba Masonic Lodge's cookoff event held Monday night. She received the second place trophy for her chili and was the People's Choice winner. Pictured with DeVane is Mike Amison.



Merlene Owens (left) shared the third place win for best chili with Tara Arnold (not pictured). Pictured with Owens is Mike Amison.

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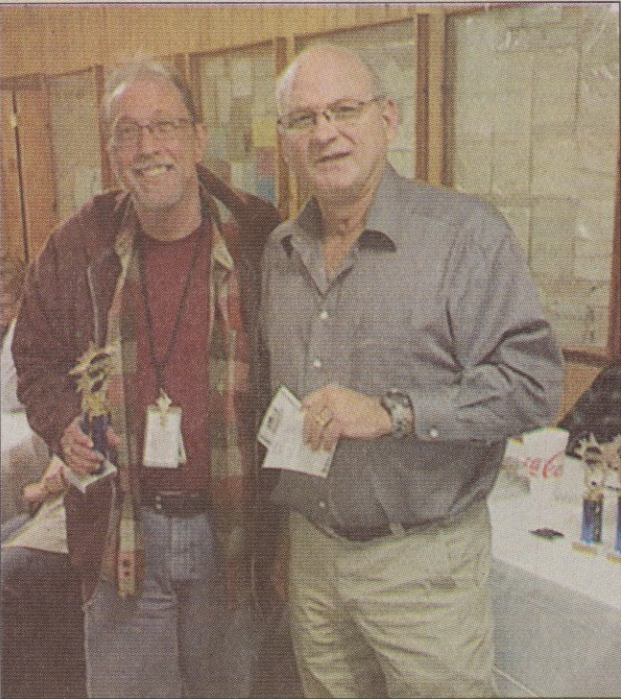
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PICTURE AT LEFT: Ed Kelley (left) won the Best Side Dish Award at the Elba Masonic Lodge's chili cookoff event held Nov. 30 at the Lodge. Pictured with Kelley is Mike Amison.

Lifestyles

News is due

on or before

Monday each

week!

Governor Kay Ivey issues statement urging school systems to return for in-person learning

Governor Kay Ivey on Tuesday, Dec. 1, issued the following statement:

"Due to COVID-19, 2020 has been an extremely challenging year for everyone, especially for our parents, teachers and students. I'm extremely grateful for the flexibility everyone has shown as they have adapted to virtual instruction. However, virtual and remote instruction are stop-gap

measures to prevent our students from regressing academically during the pandemic. These practices cannot — and should not — become a permanent part of instructional delivery system in 2021. As we are learning more about COVID-19, we are seeing more and more clear evidence pointing out that our students are safe in the classroom with strong health protocols in place.

"There are nearly 9,800 fewer students enrolled statewide in this academic year and a five percent reduction in students on the kindergarten level. This will not only result in a critical learning loss for our students today but will also likely lead to an equally negative impact on the readiness of our workforce in years to come. Additionally, it could have an equally important economic loss that affects the critical funding for our classrooms and teacher units.

"As we begin the holiday season and contemplate a return to a normalcy in 2021, I strongly urge our education leadership on both the state and local levels to return to in-person instruction as soon as possible.

"My Administration will work with Dr. Mackey, all of our local superintendents and the Legislature to ensure that our kids are back in the classroom in 2021. Our employers, our families, our communities, Alabama's taxpayers, and most importantly, our students, deserve nothing less."

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